

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 18, 2005. Claims 1-37 are presented for examination. Claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 30, 31, 36 and 37, which are the independent claims, have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The specification has been amended to conform the Summary of Invention section to the amended claims.

Claims 1-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,659,164 (Schmid), in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,019,916 (Ogura).

As shown above, Applicants have amended independent Claims 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 30, 31, 36 and 37 in terms that more clearly define what they regard as their invention. Applicants submit that these amended independent claims, together with the remaining claims dependent thereon, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 is directed to an information processing system having a multifunction apparatus, which is equipped with a facsimile function, and an information processing apparatus, the system includes (1) temporary storing means for temporarily storing, on a storage medium, output image data composed of a plurality of pages as well as output configuring information; (2) acquisition means for acquiring output size of a prescribed page from the output configuring information of the output image data stored temporarily by the temporary storing means; (3) changing means for controlling the size of each page of the output image data based upon the output size acquired by the acquisition means such that all the pages

coincide in size with the output size of the prescribed page; and (4) transmitting means for transmitting, from the multifunction apparatus to a receiving apparatus, the output image data processed by the changing means. The changing means changes the size of the output image data before the transmitting means starts to communicate with the receiving apparatus.

Among other notable features of Claim 1 is that the changing means changes the size of the output image data before the transmitting means starts to communicate with the receiving apparatus.

Schmid does not teach or suggest all of these features and, from the Office Action, it is understood that the Examiner does not disagree.

Schmid relates to automatically creating, identifying, routing and storing digitally scanned documents. In the Schmid system, pages of originals are scanned in, and each page of data is associated with corresponding page-specific data. The image data and page data are stored prior to transmission. As is conceded in the Office Action, Schmid does not teach or suggest changing the size of each page based on the output size acquired by the acquisition means.

Ogura does not remedy the deficiencies of Schmid. Ogura relates to a digital copier having a facsimile function, where the transmitting side changes the size of a document to be transmitted according to the paper size available at the receiving side, and based on size information transmitted by the receiving side. When an operator selects the transmission mode, a facsimile control transfers the receiving facsimile device's telephone number to a network control, which calls the receiving facsimile device. As the line is established, the facsimile control executes a transmission control procedure to identify the receiving facsimile device's

receiving functions, including available paper size. If the size of the document to be transmitted is different from the size available at the receiving facsimile device, the document is transmitted after being changed in size.

However, nothing has been found in Ogura that would teach or suggest that “said changing means changes the size of the output image data before said transmitting means starts to communicate with the receiving apparatus,” as recited in Claim 1. In Ogura, the size of the output image is changed after the transmitting facsimile device starts to communicate with the receiving facsimile device and based on the size information received from the receiving facsimile device.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is patentable over Schmid and Ogura, whether considered separately or in any permissible combination (if any).

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicants’ opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as references against Claim 1.

Independent Claims 8, 15, 22, 29, 30, 31, 36 and 37 recite features similar to those discussed above with respect to Claim 1 and, therefore, are also believed to be patentable over the cited prior art for the reasons discussed above.

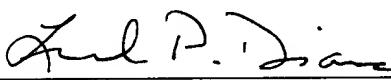
The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

This Amendment After Final Action is believed clearly to place this application in condition for allowance and, therefore, its entry is believed proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment After Final Action, as an earnest effort to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that issues remain outstanding, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' undersigned attorney in an effort to resolve such issues and advance the case to issue.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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